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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Craig R. White	Examiner:	Mohamed Hatem Ali
Serial No.:	09/977,687	Art Unit:	3692
Filed:	October 16, 2001	Docket No.:	10011785-1
Title:	CENTRALIZED BILLING CREDIT SYSTEM UTILIZING A PREDETERMINED UNIT OF USAGE		

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This Declaration is submitted to establish prior invention of the subject matter of the present patent application in the United States. The person making this Declaration is the inventor Craig R. White.

Accompanying this Declaration are Exhibits A through D to establish conception of the subject matter of the present patent application prior to the earliest effective date of September 7, 2001 of the Lamming et al. US Publication No. 2003/0050963 coupled with due diligence from prior to the earliest effective date of the Lamming publication up to the filing date of the present patent application (i.e., constructive reduction to practice).

Exhibit A (4 pages) includes a copy of HP Invention Disclosure No. 10011785 submitted by the inventor Craig R. White and received by the HP Legal Department prior to the earliest effective date of the Lamming et al. US Publication No. 2003/0050963. This invention disclosure describes subject matter of the present patent application.

Exhibit B (1 page) includes a copy of an email dated August 9, 2001, a date prior to the earliest effective date of September 7, 2001 of the Lamming et al. US Publication No. 2003/0050963, from patent attorney Bryan Webster of the law firm Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering to inventor Craig R. White forwarding a revised draft of HP Application 10011785-1 (i.e., the present patent application).

Exhibit C (1 page) includes a copy of a letter dated August 22, 2001, a date prior to the earliest effective date of September 7, 2001 of the Lamming et al. US Publication No. 2003/0050963, from patent attorney Bryan Webster of the law firm Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering to HP Legal Assistant Terri Walker forwarding the Declaration and Assignment for the patent application based on HP Invention Disclosure No. 10011785-1 (i.e., the present

Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Applicant: Craig R. White

Serial No.: 09/977,687

Filed: October 16, 2001

Docket No.: 10011785-1

Title: CENTRALIZED BILLING CREDIT SYSTEM UTILIZING A PREDETERMINED UNIT OF USAGE

patent application) for signature by the inventor. The letter also includes comments dated August 29, 2001, a date prior to the earliest effective date of September 7, 2001 of the Lamming et al. US Publication No. 2003/0050963, and comments dated September 15, 2001.

Exhibit D (1 page) includes a copy of a letter dated September 18, 2001 from patent attorney Bryan Webster of the law firm Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering to HP Legal Assistant Terri Walker forwarding the Declaration and Assignment for the patent application based on HP Invention Disclosure No. 10011785-1 (i.e., the present patent application) for signature by the inventor. The letter also includes comments dated September 21, 2001, and September 25, 2001.

Subsequently, on October 16, 2001, the patent application based on HP Invention Disclosure No. 10011785-1 (i.e., the present patent application) was filed.

From these exhibits, it can be seen that the subject matter of the present patent application was conceived in the United States prior to the earliest effective date of September 7, 2001 of the Lamming et al. US Publication No. 2003/0050963 coupled with due diligence from prior to the earliest effective date of the Lamming publication up to the filing date of the present patent application (i.e., constructive reduction to practice).


As a person signing below, I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name: Craig R. White
Craig R. White

Date: 28 Jan - 03

EXHIBIT A

Write in Dark Ink on Front Side Only, Please

	INVENTION DISCLOSURE	PAGE ONE OF <u> </u>
PDNO <u>10011705</u>	DATE RCVD <u> </u>	ATTORNEY <u>LGM</u>
<i>Instructions: The information contained in this document is COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL and may not be disclosed to others without prior authorization. Submit this disclosure to the HP Legal Department as soon as possible. No patent protection is possible until a patent application is authorized, prepared, and submitted to the Government.</i>		
Descriptive Title of Invention: Centralized billing token credit system		
Name of Project: N/A		
Product Name or Number: N/A		
Was a description of the invention published, or are you planning to publish? If so, the date(s) and publication(s): No.		
Was a product including the invention announced, offered for sale, sold, or is such activity proposed? If so, the date(s) and location(s): No.		
Was the invention disclosed to anyone outside of HP, or will such disclosure occur? If so, the date(s) and name(s): No.		
<i>If any of the above situations will occur within 3 months, call your IP attorney or the Legal Department now at 1-888-4919 or 970-898-4919.</i>		
Was the invention described in a lab book or other record? If so, please identify (lab book #, etc.) No.		
Was the invention built or tested? If so, the date: No.		
Was this invention made under a government contract? If so, the agency and contract number: No.		
Description of Invention: <i>Please preserve all records of the invention and attach additional pages for the following. Each additional page should be signed and dated by the inventor(s) and witness(es).</i>		
A. Description of the construction and operation of the invention (include appropriate schematic, block, & timing diagrams; drawings; samples; graphs; flowcharts; computer listings; test results; etc.)		
B. Advantages of the invention over what has been done before.		
C. Problems solved by the invention.		
D. Prior solutions and their disadvantages (if available, attach copies of product literature, technical articles, patents, etc.).		
Signature of Inventor(s): Pursuant to my (our) employment agreement, I (we) submit this disclosure on this date: <u> </u>		
<u> </u>	Craig R. White	<u>Craig R. White</u>
Employee No.	Name	Signature
		Telnet Mailstop Entity & Lab Name
Employee No.	Name	Signature
		Telnet Mailstop Entity & Lab Name
Employee No.	Name	Signature
		Telnet Mailstop Entity & Lab Name
Employee No.	Name	Signature
		Telnet Mailstop Entity & Lab Name
<i>(If more than four inventors, include additional information on another copy of this form and attach to this document)</i>		

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INVENTION DISCLOSURE		COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL	PAGE	OF
Signature of Witness(es): <i>(Please try to obtain the signature of the person(s) to whom invention was first disclosed.)</i>				
The invention was first explained to, and understood by, me (us) on this date: []				
Full Name	Signature	Date of Signature		
Full Name	Signature	Date of Signature		
Inventor & Home Address Information: <i>(If more than four inventors, include addl. information on a copy of this form & attach to this document)</i>				
Inventor's Full Name Craig R. White				
Street 3403 S. Pasadena Pl.				
City Eagle	State ID.	Zip 83616		
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX	City	State	Zip	
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.)		Citizenship U.S.		
Inventor's Full Name				
Street				
City	State	Zip		
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX	City	State	Zip	
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.)		Citizenship		
Inventor's Full Name				
Street				
City	State	Zip		
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX	City	State	Zip	
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.)		Citizenship		
Inventor's Full Name				
Street				
City	State	Zip		
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX	City	State	Zip	
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.)		Citizenship		

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Description of Invention: <i>Please preserve all records of the invention and attach additional pages for the following. Each additional page should be signed and dated by the inventor(s) and witness(es).</i>	
A.	Description of the construction and operation of the invention (include appropriate schematic, block, & timing diagrams; drawings; samples; graphs; flowcharts; computer listings; test results; etc.) This invention allows for a billing system used for a network of printers that creates a token bank that describes printing usage credits and debits. Each user starts with a configured number of tokens for printing in the bank such as 50. Each type of job/device combination requires a certain number of tokens. Anytime you print on someone else's printer part of the charge for printing creates a token credit in their account and part is a credit in the network account. This also results in a debit for the person printing. When someone uses your printer you get a credit to your account of tokens. At each appropriate billing period (such as month-end) any user with a negative balance will have their location charged for usage. Anyone with a positive balance will carry that over to the next period.
B.	Advantages of the invention over what has been done before. Delays transfer of funds and business transactions until appropriate for the business. Rewards users for allowing their printers to be used by others. Allows a dollar value to be applied to specific devices. Creates a more accessible set of printers for a company.
C.	Problems solved by the invention. Encourages use of printers by others. Tracks usage and bills appropriately. Does a more effective job of billing at the macro level not the micro level. Can map to external business opportunities for other companies.
D.	Prior solutions and their disadvantages (if available, attach copies of product literature, technical articles, patents, etc.). None.

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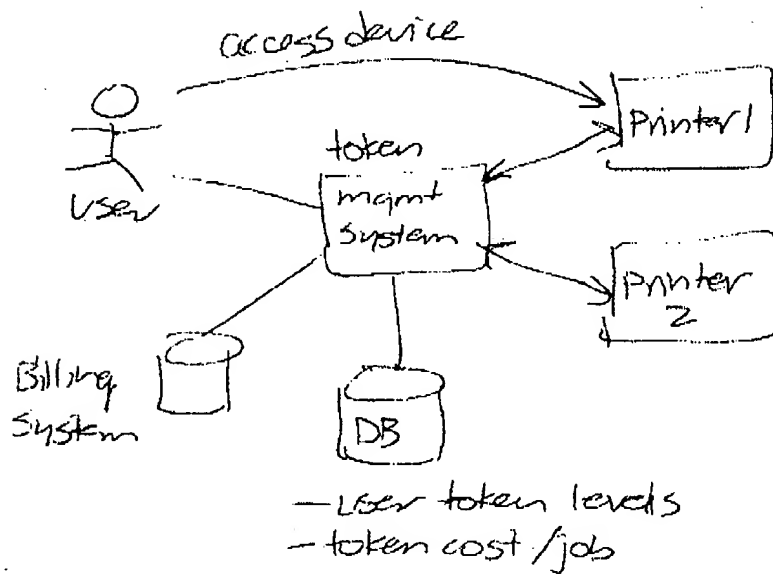


EXHIBIT B

HP Application 10011785-1
From: "webster, Bryan" <bwebster@wilmer.com>
To: "White, Craig (Indigo R&D)" <cwhite@hp.com>
Date: 8/9/2001 11:29 AM
Subject: HP Application 10011785-1
Attachments: token billing system application cw.doc; fig.1r.jpg; Fig.2.jpg;
Fig.3&4.jpg

Mr. White, thank you very much for your comments regarding the draft application. Enclosed as attachments please find a revised draft application with the changes illustrated in blue, the revised figure 1 and the other figures for your convenience. I attempted to illustrate the debit/credit token model in the specification and claims as you suggested.

Please review and feel free to bring any issue to my attention.

Thanks

Bryan Webster
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering
2445 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
202-663-6435
bwebster@wilmer.com<mailto:bwebster@wilmer.com>

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4/15/01
 TITLE BOEING: 1014 (261)
 WEBSTER LIMITED TO
 1014

WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING

2400 K STREET, N.W.
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 TELEPHONE: (202) 662-6000
 FACSIMILE: (202) 662-6303

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EXHIBIT C

August 22, 2001

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Terri Walker
 Hewlett-Packard Company
 Legal Dept. 314
 11307 Chinden Boulevard
 Boise, ID 83714-1021

RE New U.S. Application
 Re: Declaration and Assignment
 Your Reference: 10011785-1
 Our Reference: 361550.0104

Get OC's
 E-mail
 Address

WEBSTER & WILMER
 CON

Dear Terri:

In preparation for filing, we are enclosing the Declaration and Assignment for the above-identified application.

Please ask the inventor, Mr. White, to verify that his personal information on the documents is correct. Mr. White should then sign and date the documents **in blue ink**. Please return the original executed Declaration to us using the enclosed FedEx shipping label and envelope, and retain the Assignment for filing at a later date.

Should revisions to the application, drawings, or Mr. White's personal information on the documents be needed, please ask him not to sign the documents and to contact us as soon as possible.

Please let us know if you have questions or comments.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

Bryan E. Webster

BEW/kmc

cc: John W. Ryan, Esq.
 Enclosures

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EXHIBIT D

WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING

2400 M STREET NW
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PHILADELPHIA
BOSTON

September 18, 2001

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BOISE LEGAL

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Terri Walker
Hewlett-Packard Company
Legal Dept. 314
11307 Chinden Boulevard
Boise, ID 83718-1021

RE: New U.S. Application
Re: Declaration and Assignment
Your Reference: 10011785-1
Our Reference: 361550.0104

Dear Terri:

Pursuant to our telephone conference with Mr. McCallister, and in preparation for filing, we are enclosing the Declaration and Assignment for the above-identified application.

Please ask the inventor, Mr. White, to verify that his personal information on the documents is correct. Mr. White should then sign and date the documents in blue ink. Please return the original executed Declaration to us using the enclosed FedEx shipping label and envelope, and retain the Assignment for filing at a later date.

Should revisions to the application, drawings, or Mr. White's personal information on the documents be needed, please ask him not to sign the documents and to contact us as soon as possible.

Please let us know if you have questions or comments.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

Bryan E. Webster
Bryan E. Webster
Patent Agent

* Not admitted to practice in D.C.
BRIW/aml/dll
cc: John W. Ryan, Esq.
Enclosures